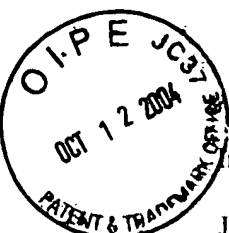


IFW



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of:)
Johnson) Attorney Docket No: 1842-0019
Application No.: 10/623,957) Examiner: To be Assigned
Filed: July 21, 2003)
Title: Tissue Distraction Device) Group Art Unit: 3763

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:
Commissioner of Patents, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on October 7, 2004
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Michael D. Beck
Name of person mailing Document or Fee
Michael D. Beck
Signature of person mailing Document or Fee
October 5, 2004
Date of Signature

THIRD SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner of Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:
Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56, Applicants hereby disclose the following references. The following reference is newly cited in the present application.

| <u>U.S. Patent No.</u> | <u>Inventor</u> | <u>Issue Date</u> |
|------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| 5,192,326 | Bao et al. | 03/09/1993 |
| 6,045,579 | Hochshuler et al. | 04/04/2000 |
| 6,110,210 | Norton et al. | 08/29/2000 |
| 6,200,347 | Anderson et al. | 03/13/2001 |
| 6,241,771 | Gresser et al. | 06/05/2001 |
| 6,273,916 | Murphy | 08/14/2001 |
| 6,287,309 | Baccelli et al. | 09/11/2001 |

| <u>Foreign Patents</u> | | |
|------------------------|----------------|-------------------|
| <u>Patent No.</u> | <u>Country</u> | <u>Issue Date</u> |
| 0 621 020 | Europe | 17/03/1994 |
| 2,639,823 | France | 06/12/1988 |

It is believed that no fees are due for the consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement because no Office Action has been received. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency or to credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-0014, but not to include any payment of issue fees.

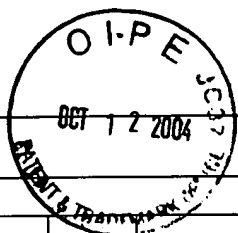
October 7, 2004
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Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael D. Beck", written in a cursive style.

Michael D. Beck
Registration No. 32, 722

FORM PTO-1449
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT



ATTY. DOCKET NO.: 1842-0019

APPLICATION NO. 10/623,957

APPLICANT: Johnson

FILING DATE: July 21, 2003

GROUP ART UNIT: 3763

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| EXAMINER INITIAL | | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUB- CLASS | FILING DATE |
|---------------------|----|--------------------|------------|-------------------|-------|---------------|-------------|
| | AA | 5,192,326 | 03/09/1993 | Bao et al. | | | |
| | AB | 6,045,579 | 04/04/2000 | Hochshuler et al. | | | |
| | AC | 6,110,210 | 08/29/2000 | Norton et al. | | | |
| | AD | 6,200,347 | 03/13/2001 | Anderson et al. | | | |
| | AE | 6,241,771 | 06/15/2001 | Gresser et al. | | | |
| | AF | 6,279,916 | 08/14/2001 | Murphy | | | |
| | AG | 6,287,309 | 09/11/2001 | Baccelli et al. | | | |
| | AH | | | | | | |
| | AI | | | | | | |
| | AJ | | | | | | |
| | AK | | | | | | |

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| EXAMINER INITIAL | | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | Country | CLASS | SUB- CLASS | TRANSLATION |
|---------------------|----|--------------------|------------|---------|-------|---------------|-------------|
| | AL | 0 621 020 | 17/03/1994 | Europe | | | Yes No |
| | AM | 2 639 823 | 06/12/1988 | France | | | Yes No |
| | AN | | | | | | Yes No |
| | AO | | | | | | Yes No |
| | AP | | | | | | Yes No |

OTHER (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)

| | | | |
|--|----|---|--|
| | AQ | 1 | |
| | AR | 1 | |
| | AS | 1 | |

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant.